

F B I

Date: 9-26-68

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL

AM

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
ATTN: DOCUMENT SECTION
FBI LABORATORY

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

650928019

Submitted herewith are five separate communications which Sheriff WILLIAM N. MORRIS, JR., Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee, made available to SAC this date. These are letters prepared by subject JAMES EARL RAY. These are all samples of known handwriting and hand printing of subject RAY. They should be utilized for any additional handwriting comparison needed in captioned case.

In addition, there are furnished herewith the originals of two letters which were forwarded by RAY to the Honorable W. PRESTON BATTLE, Judge of the Criminal Court, Memphis, Tennessee. Judge BATTLE will be the presiding Judge in the JAMES EARL RAY trial. These letters were furnished by Judge BATTLE to SAC. In connection with these letters, District Attorney General PHIL M. CANALE, Memphis, raised point that possibility exists that utilization of material furnished the Judge might be prejudicial at some future date. CANALE pointed out that since Judge BATTLE would hear case he was of opinion that it would probably not be feasible to utilize handwriting in letters sent Judge BATTLE. Therefore, it is requested that handwriting examination prepared by Document Section utilize letters received from Sheriff MORRIS as primary sources for examination purposes.

Results of examination regarding letters received by Sheriff MORRIS should be handled in separate communication. Handwriting examination relative to letters received by Judge BATTLE should not be incorporated in the examination of handwriting contained in letters received by Sheriff MORRIS. The letters received by Judge BATTLE should be made a matter of a

FILE INDEX

BUREAU

3 BUREAU (Enc. 1) (AMSD - REGISTERED)

1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN (4)

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

REC-5 11-27-68 5202
EX-101 6 SEP 28 1968
Sent M Per
FBI - MEMPHIS
FBI UNIT
430-68

RE 44-1987

A separate examination and a separate Laboratory report.
District Attorney General CANALE's views should be incorporated
in any results pertaining to examination of the letters received
by Judge BATTLE.

The originals should be returned to the Memphis Office
so that they can be delivered to Sheriff MORRIS and Judge BATTLE.